

Message Text

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PAGE 01 MADRID 09044 080220Z
ACTION SS-25

INFO OCT-01 ISO-00 SSO-00 INRE-00 NSCE-00 CIAE-00
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R 070956Z AUG 78
FM AMEMBASSY MADRID
TO SECSTATE WASHDC 5634
INFO SECDEF WASHDC
AMEMBASSY THE HAGUE
AMEMBASSY LUXEMBOURG
AMEMBASSY COPENHAGEN
AMEMBASSY OSLO
AMEMBASSY LONDON
AMEMBASSY DUBLIN
AMEMBASSY LISBON
AMEMBASSY PARIS
AMEMBASSY ROME
AMEMBASSY ATHENS
AMEMBASSY TEHRAN
AMEMBASSY REYKJAVIK
USMISSION USNATO
AMCONSUL STUTTGART
USNMR SHAPE
USCINCEUR VAIHINGEN GER
CINCUSAREUR HEIDELBERG GER
CINCUSAFE RAMSTEIN GER

C O N F I D E N T I A L MADRID 09044

EXDIS

C O R R E C T E D COPY (MONTH ADDED IN DTG LINE)

MILITARY ADDRESSEES TREAT AS SPECAT EXCLUSIVE

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PAGE 02 MADRID 09044 080220Z

E.O.11652: XGDS-3
TAGS :AMER, MPOL, MILI, PORS, XG, XF, GW, SP
SUBJ :NEGOTIATIONS OF TRANSIT/SAFEHAVEN AGREEMENTS TO
FACILITATE EMERGENCY EVACUATION (E&E) FROM GERMANY

REF:BONN 13875 (D 291258Z JUL 78)

1. WHILE GOS WOULD BE SYMPATHETIC TOWARD AN APPROACH ON A SAFEHAVEN AGREEMENT COVERING POSSIBLE AMERICAN EVACUEES, WE WOULD HAVE TO ASSUME THAT THE RESULTANT NEGOTIATIONS WOULD BE LONG AND DETAILED, THAT THEY WOULD BECOME PUBLIC KNOWLEDGE HERE, AND THAT THEY WOULD GIVE RISE TO SUSPICIONS AND QUESTIONS THAT WOULD BE AWKWARD BOTH FOR US AND FOR THE SPANISH GOVERNMENT.

2. FOR EXAMPLE, PEOPLE HERE WOULD WANT TO KNOW WHAT HAS SUDDENLY CHANGED IN THE EUROPEAN BALANCE THAT CAUSES US TO THINK OF THE SECURITY OF OUR NATIONALS IN GERMANY. IF NOTHING HAS CHANGED, DOES OUR INTEREST IN THIS SUBJECT ARISE FROM A WORRISOME CHANGE IN AMERICAN STRATEGY OR A DIMINISHED CONFIDENCE IN NATO'S ABILITY TO DEFEND THE CENTRAL FRONT? EVEN MORE PROMINENT WOULD BE THE QUESTIONS OF WHETHER THIS WERE SOME DEVIOUS AMERICAN ATTEMPT TO FORCE A CLOSER AND FASTER SPANISH ASSOCIATION WITH NATO, AND WHETHER OUR INTEREST IN SPANISH MEMBERSHIP WAS, AS SOMETIMES ALLEGED, SOLELY LIMITED TO ACQUIRING MORE REAR AREA REAL ESTATE. THE LATTER WOULD ALSO ENCOURAGE SOME FRIENDLY MINDS TO THINK MORE ABOUT NEGOTIATING A QUALIFIED NATO MEMBERSHIP ON SUCH A LIMITED BASIS, WITH SPAIN RECEIVING FULL BENEFITS OF MEMBERSHIP AND PERHAPS "COMPENSATION," WHILE ASSUMING NO OBLIGATIONS OTHER THAN THE CONTINGENT USE OF HER TERRITORY.
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3. SINCE IN THE EVENT OF A REAL EMERGENCY WE COULD PROBABLY MOVE EVACUEES THROUGH SPAIN WITHOUT DIFFICULTY, WE BELIEVE THE DISADVANTAGES IN APPROACHING THE GOS AT THIS TIME STRONGLY ARGUE AGAINST OUR DOING SO. TODMAN

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NNN

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